

**National Recreation and Preservation/Statutory or Contractual Aid for Other Activities**

**JUSTIFICATION OF PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE**

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Activity: Statutory or Contractual Aid for Other Activities  
Subactivity: Dayton Aviation Heritage Commission

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Program Component	1999 Estimate	Uncontr/ Related Changes	Program Changes (+/-)	2000 Budget Request	Change From 1999 (+/-)
Dayton Aviation Heritage Commission	48	0	0	48	0
<b>Total Requirements \$(000)</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>0</b>

**AUTHORIZATION**

Public Law 102-419, Dayton Aviation Heritage Preservation Act, 1992, as amended.

**OVERVIEW**

The NPS assists the **Dayton Aviation Heritage Commission**, State and local authorities and the private sector in preserving and managing historic resources located in the Miami Valley, Ohio, associated with the Wright brothers, early aviation in the United States, and the life and works of noted poet, Paul Laurence Dunbar.

**APPLICABLE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE MISSION GOALS**

- Ia Natural and cultural resources and associated values are protected, restored and maintained in good condition and managed within their broader ecosystem and cultural context.
- Ib The National Park Service contributes to knowledge about natural and cultural resources and associated values; management decisions about resources and visitors are based on adequate scholarly and scientific information.
- IIa Visitors safely enjoy and are satisfied with the availability, accessibility, diversity, and quality of park facilities, services, and appropriate recreational opportunities.
- IIb Park visitors and the general public understand and appreciate the preservation of parks and their resources for this and future generations.
- IIIa Natural and cultural resources are conserved through formal partnership programs.
- IIIb Through partnerships with other Federal, State, and local agencies and nonprofit organizations, a nationwide system of parks, open space, rivers, and trails provides educational, recreational, and conservation benefits for the American people.

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***Dayton Aviation Heritage Commission  
FY 1999 Estimated Program and Anticipated Accomplishments***

**Enacted: \$48,000**

Section 201 of Public Law 102-419 authorized the establishment of a 13-member Dayton Aviation Heritage Commission. The commission members have been appointed. Authorized functions of the commission include operating responsibilities related to preparation of a preservation and development plan for the historic districts surrounding the park and for forty-seven additional historic properties throughout the Miami Valley. The development plan would identify properties which should be preserved, restored or developed and propose an organizational structure and strategy for management of aviation-related properties and other resources. The commission is also charged to: provide advice regarding the general management plan for Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical

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Park; propose transportation links for pedestrian, bicycle and a light-rail interurban system, private vehicles, traffic patterns, parking and public transportation; carry out educational and cultural programs; provide technical and preservation assistance to property owners; and, set standards for and create an index of properties of historical and cultural significance.

For FY 1999 the commission has undertaken several steps as it plans to meet the objectives established in FY 1998. Heading the list is a transportation project that will look at the feasibility of constructing a rail link between the individual park sites. In conjunction with Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission, the commission is using a \$1,000,000 grant from the Federal Transit Administration to undertake a major investment study. Nearly a quarter million dollars was received from the Ohio Department of Transportation to provide the match needed under the legislation which authorized the study. If at the conclusion of the study the rail link is determined to be feasible the project may move into the preliminary design and construction stage. In the area of neighborhood development the commission has become the executive agent for a city of Dayton grant to make streetscape improvements in the Paul Laurence Dunbar Home State Memorial. This project will see the installation of new lighting and signage along Paul Laurence Dunbar Street.

Plans are also underway to obtain staff support from the United States Air Force at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. The commission requested the detail assignment of a Department of Defense representative to work commission business on a full time basis. This request was received favorably by the Air Force and approval by the agency is expected. Lastly, the commission hopes to finalize the project at 30 S. Williams that will become the permanent home for the commission.

For FY 2000 the commission hopes to continue the work that was started in FY 1999, in particular the transportation project that will link the park sites together. It also anticipates working closely with the 2003 Committee to ensure all interpretive displays are funded and constructed in time for the 2003 Celebration of Flight.

Federal support of the commission is proposed to remain unchanged in FY 2000.